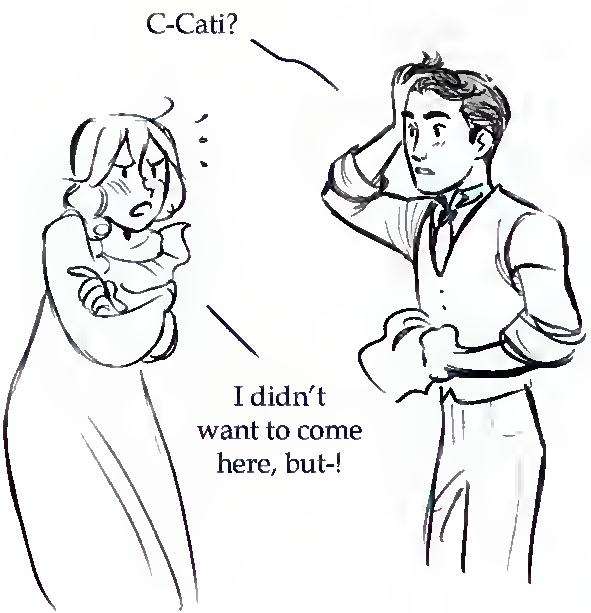
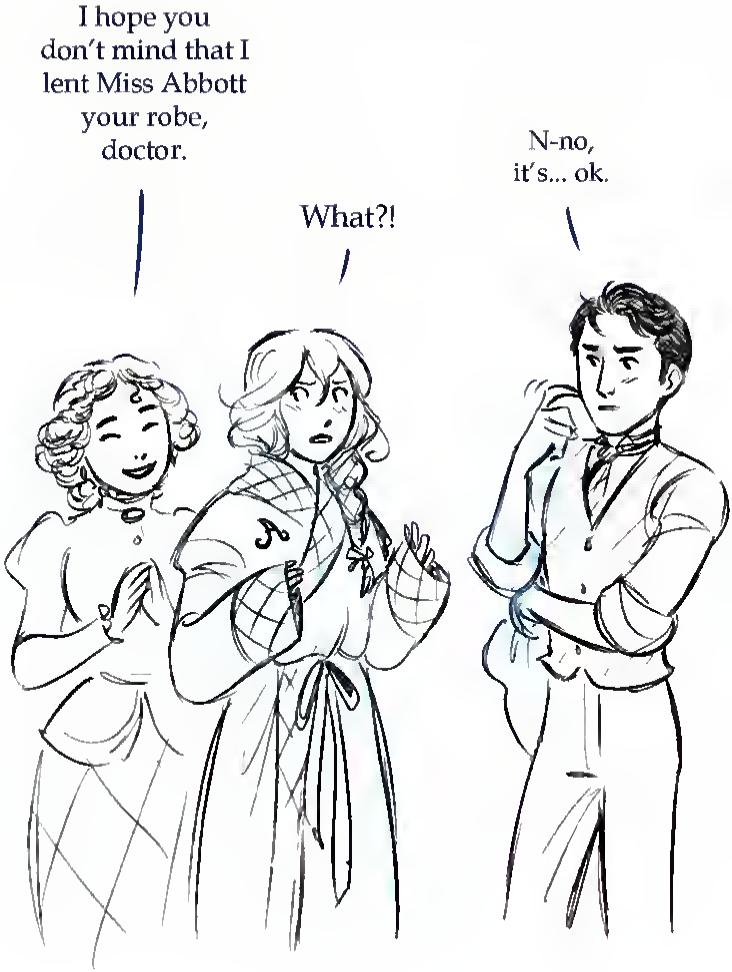

C-Cati?
I didn't want to come here, but-!

Ah, doctor! Any news?
No, Miss Herrick, no news so far.

(Here. You should be more *demure* in front of a man, dear.)
You took away my cape!


I hope you don't mind that I lent Miss Abbott your robe, doctor.
What?!
N-no, it's... ok.

I'm going to sew your cape, Miss Abbott.

And I'll be back in a minute to join you, doctor.

Doctor Marino,
I assure you that I didn't intend to come here.

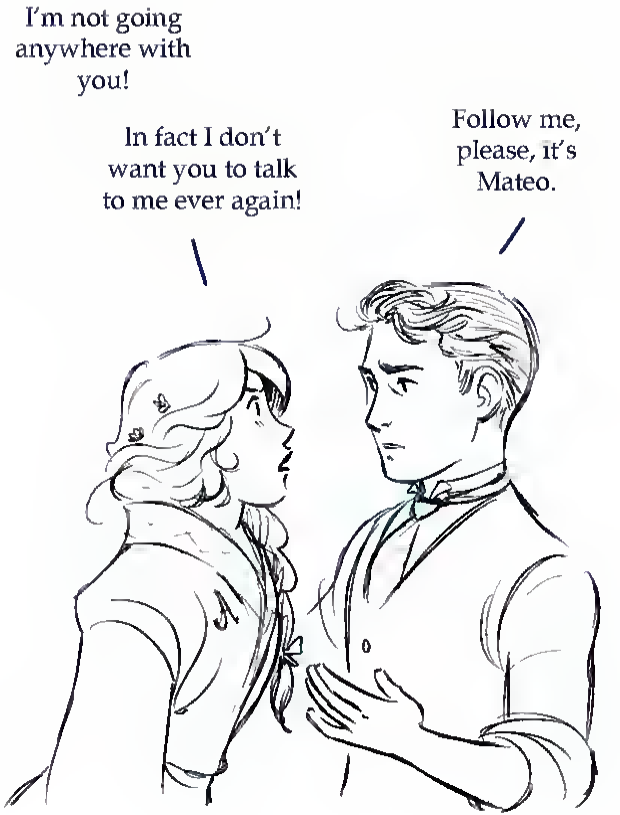
I didn't know you had a guest, but now I understand why you couldn't attend the Harvest party.

Listen, Cati... Miss Herrick is a friend of my family, she came yesterday to–

How dare you stand me up?!
Why did you agree to meet me today if you didn't want to come?
I didn't expect this from you!

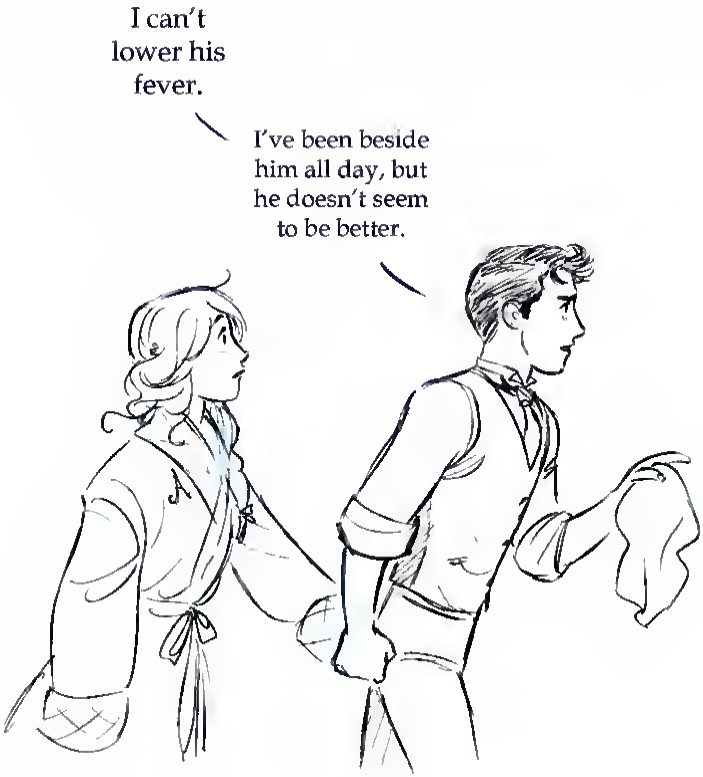
Don't be angry, I didn't stand you up.

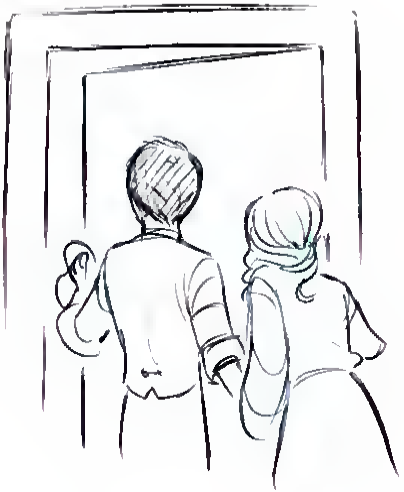
Pff! I'm not angry. Actually I don't care.
I need you to come with me.


I'm not going anywhere with you!
In fact I don't want you to talk to me ever again!
Follow me, please, it's Mateo.

I said-!

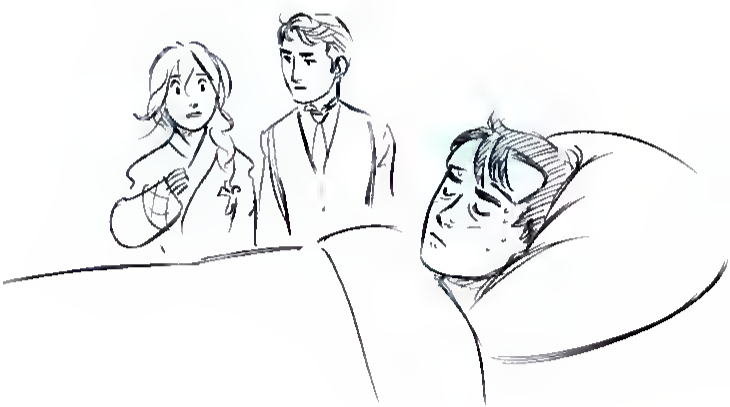
What?


I can't lower his fever.
I've been beside him all day, but he doesn't seem to be better.

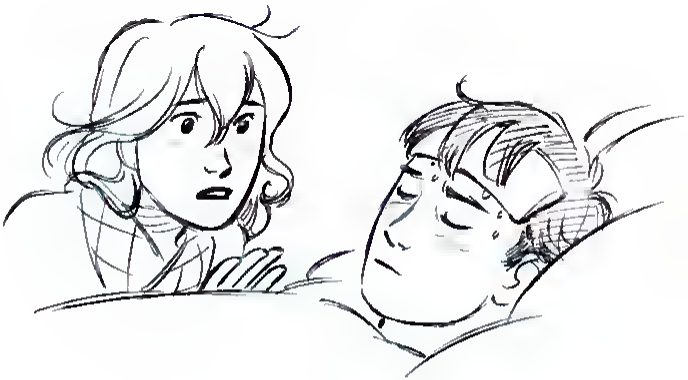


Oh, no.

He looks... terrible.



Mateo, do
you hear me?
It's Cati...

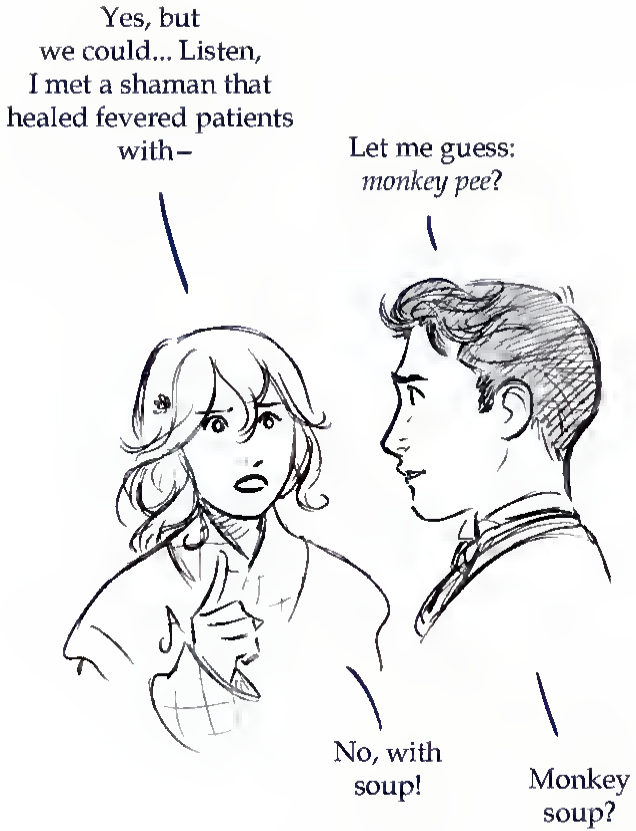


How long
has he been
like this?

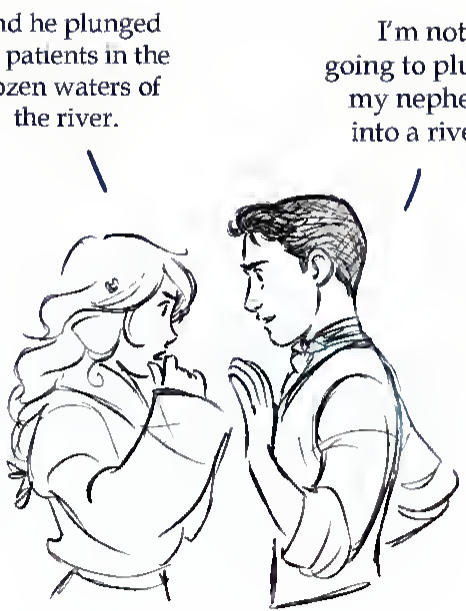
I'm not sure. He went to buy some supplies this morning and I found him on the porch two hours after.

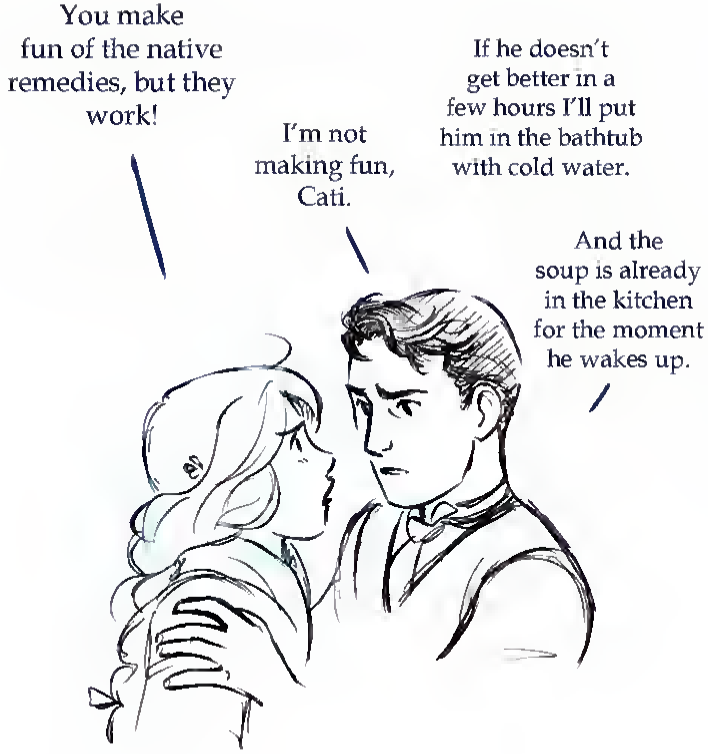
Last night he complained about the house being too hot, I guess he got some kind of fever.

How can I help?
I've done everything that can be done.
We can only wait and see.


Yes, but we could... Listen, I met a shaman that healed fevered patients with–
Let me guess: *monkey pee*?
No, with soup!
Monkey soup?

With
chicken soup.




You make fun of the native remedies, but they work!
I'm not making fun, Cati.
If he doesn't get better in a few hours I'll put him in the bathtub with cold water.
And the soup is already in the kitchen for the moment he wakes up.

Miss Abbott, your cape is already fixed. I left it in the hall.
Thank you, Miss Herrick.

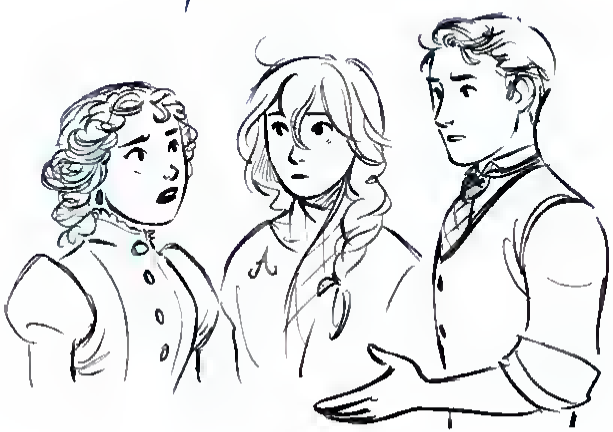
Poor Mateo.

Oh, he looks handsome even in illness.

I can't stand seeing him like that.

I'm going to keep an eye on the soup, doctor, I need to keep myself busy.

All right, thank you. I'll let you know if there's any change.



Come with me, Miss Abbott, keep me company for a while.
May I stay?
Of course. Mateo will be happy to see you.

Make sure the soup has enough chicken, please.
All right.

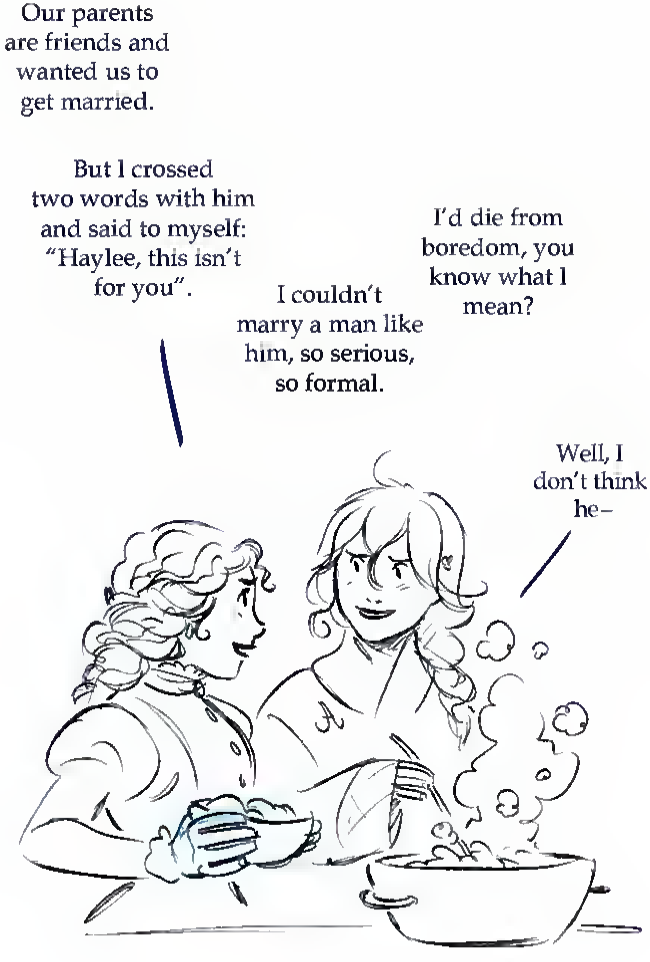
Are you sure we must add more chicken, Miss Abbott?
Absolutely. And we need some vegetables. And sausages and ham.
I wonder if there's some fish in the pantry...

Don't worry, Doctor Marino is an excellent physician. I'm not worried myself.
I know, Miss Herrick. Have you known him for long?

You won't believe it, but he's my fiancé.
W-what???

I'm kidding, I just love saying that I'm engaged.

Doctor Marino *was* my fiancé for five minutes.


Our parents are friends and wanted us to get married.
But I crossed two words with him and said to myself: "Haylee, this isn't for you".
I couldn't marry a man like him, so serious, so formal.
I'd die from boredom, you know what I mean?
Well, I don't think he–

Besides,
I'm interested in
another person.

He's 17 and
I'm already 18,
I'm too old for
him, but...

I'm sure you have no idea of whom I talking about!
Well, to tell the truth, I–
I'm talking about Mateo!

He's adorable. Handsome, funny, sophisticated...

My only concern is our age gap...

I'm quite sure
he doesn't care
about that kind
of thing.

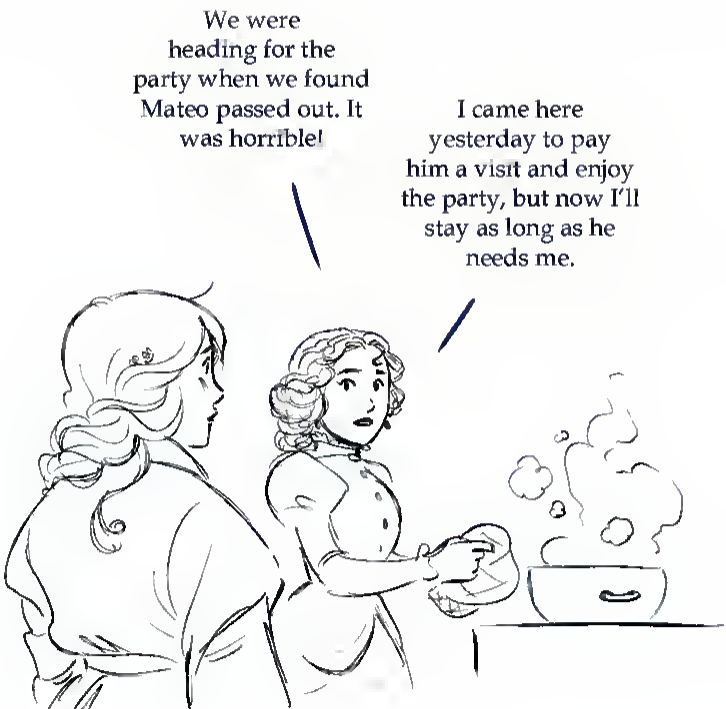
Then I hope
he's not interested
in someone else,
like his uncle is.
Wow,
this soup is
becoming a
purée.

S-so... his uncle is interested in someone?
I don't miss a thing, you know?
You should have seen him this morning, all dressed-up for the Harvest party.
I'd say he was even nervous.

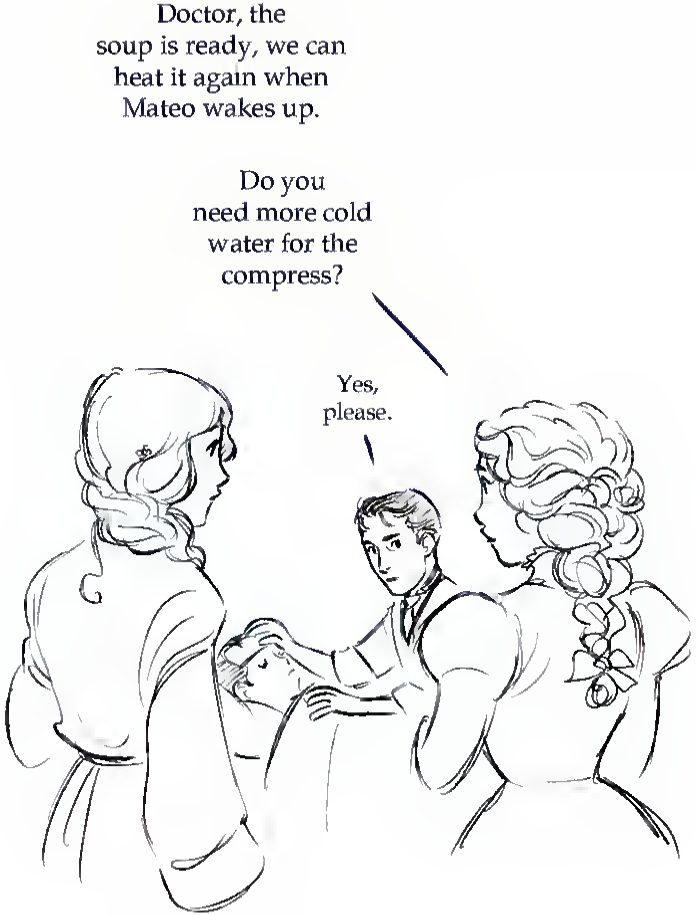
Can you imagine Doctor Marino in love?

I imagine him talking to his sweetheart: "Miss X, aren't you too close? Of course we can't kiss, that would be inappropiate".

Haha! Poor girl. I've known him for three years and he still says Miss Herrick this, Miss Herrick that.


We were heading for the party when we found Mateo passed out. It was horrible!
I came here yesterday to pay him a visit and enjoy the party, but now I'll stay as long as he needs me.

Let's get out of here, dear, this heat is not good for you.

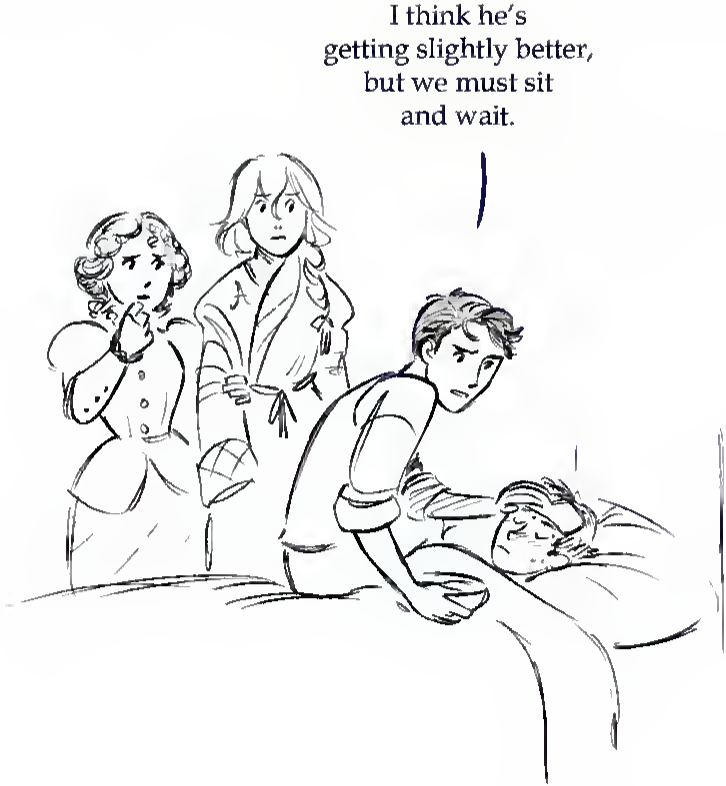

Doctor, the soup is ready, we can heat it again when Mateo wakes up.
Do you need more cold water for the compress?
Yes, please.

Doct...
Andreas...
I'm sorry for what I said to you before. I didn't know...
I'm sorry.

I sent Miss Herrick to warn you this morning, but she has no sense of direction, can you believe it?

I told you that I'd go to the party and it's not my habit to break my promises.
Although I hope you didn't think I'd join the "apple mouth-fishing" or whatever that game is called.
Haha!
But that's the best part!

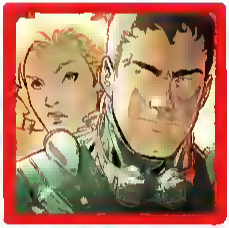
Here's the water, doctor Marino.
Thank you.


I think he's
getting slightly better,
but we must sit
and wait.

@maripaz_villar

(Thank you, Izzy, for your help).

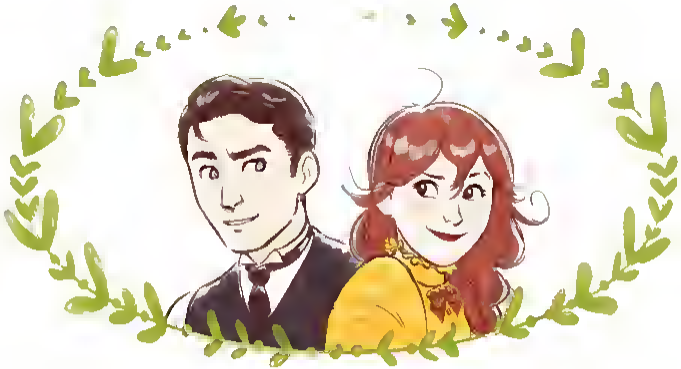
What can you read while waiting for the next chapter, you ask?



Home
(the sci-fi comic)

Awkward moments

Find them on the Discover section!



Miss Abbott and the doctor

STORY + ART

Maripaz Villar

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